

23. A method of improving acceptance and osseous integration of bone implants which comprises administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of an agent comprising (1) creatine or an analogue thereof or (2) a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of creatine or analog thereof, to improve acceptance and osseous integration of bone implants.

24. A method for accelerating healing in a subject having a defect in bone or cartilage tissue caused by trauma or surgery, which method comprises administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of (1) a creatine compound or analogue thereof or (2) a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of creatine or analog thereof, or (3) a creatine kinase.

Please add the following new claims:

25. A method of treating at least one of (1) osteoporosis unrelated to weight gain or weight loss and (2) osteoarthritis unrelated to weight gain or weight loss, which comprises administering to an animal a therapeutically effective amount of an agent comprising creatine or an analogue or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to treat the at least one of (1) osteoporosis unrelated to weight gain or weight loss and (2) osteoarthritis unrelated to weight gain or weight loss.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the agent comprises creatine pyruvate.

27. A method of treating at least one bone or cartilage condition which comprises administering to an animal a therapeutically effective amount of an agent comprising creatine pyruvate or an analogue thereof, to treat at least one of osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, and periodontitis.